



MIAMI TOWNSHIP FIRE & EMS CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO *TRAUMA PROTOCOLS*



EYE INJURY

Historical Findings

1. History of actual or suspected eye injury.
2. MAY have foreign body sensation or pain in eye.

Physical Findings

1. MAY have visible foreign body or visible globe laceration.
2. MAY have light sensitivity.
3. MAY have poorly reactive or non-reactive pupil.

Protocol

1. If there is an impaled object, then stabilize it in place.
2. If there is evidence of a penetrating eye injury such as visible globe laceration or fluid draining from the globe, then cover the affected eye and unaffected eye with a sterile dressing and *metal* eye patch. Do not press on the globe.
3. If the patient has a chemical exposure to the eye or a non-penetrating foreign body in the eye, then proceed in the following manner:
 - A. Remove contact lenses immediately.
 - B. Instill 1-2 drops of 0.5% tetracaine (Pontocaine) or proparacaine (Alcaine) into the affected eye. The dose can be repeated in 15 minutes.
 - C. Warn the patient not to rub the eye while the cornea is anesthetized, since this may cause corneal abrasion and greater discomfort when the anesthesia wears off.
 - D. If there has been a chemical exposure, then begin eye irrigation by flushing with copious amounts of tap water or normal saline solution. If patient is being transported continue irrigation until arrival at the hospital.